



MI-CW3307

Michigan Crop Weather

August 20, 2007

Drought Relief

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending August 19, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.06 inches in the Upper Peninsula to 2.25 inches in the southwest Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below normal in the south central Lower Peninsula to 1 degree below normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Farmers greatly appreciated the rainfall seen in much of the State, providing certain crops with relief from the recent dry weather. Unfortunately, not all crops were able to benefit from the additional moisture. A farmer in the west central Lower Peninsula mentioned that, "While we received a limited amount of rain this weekend, little or no assistance was given to corn, hay, and other crops. The rain came too late to provide any drought relief." Another reporter in the south central Lower Peninsula said that, "The rain has arrived, but it's much too late to do any positive good regarding crop yields for corn and soybeans. The moisture recharge should help the alfalfa go into next season in good condition."

Field Crops

Cooler temperatures and light precipitation were welcomed during the week as growers hoped to receive adequate moisture to relieve the drought conditions across the State. The rainfall may have come too late to be very beneficial to extremely stressed crops in some areas. **Corn** development was primarily in the dough stage and the condition continued to vary depending on the amount of rainfall received. The **soybean** crop showed signs of improvement with the cooler temperatures and light rain as the crop continued setting and filling pods. The added moisture should also help the plants compensate for damage caused by spider mites. **Alfalfa** re-growth was slow and spotty and continued to be very short; harvest of a third cutting continued in some areas. **Dry beans** continued setting pods and leaves began turning in some areas. **Oat** harvest continued in some areas. **Sugarbeets** continued to add growth and were in good condition overall.

Soil moisture for week ending 08/19/07

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	55	22	16	7
Subsoil	53	30	15	2

Crop condition for week ending 08/19/07

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	36	25	26	11	2
Corn	15	26	36	21	2
Dry beans	6	20	58	15	1
Pasture	34	28	24	11	3
Soybeans	11	22	38	20	9

Fruit

The first harvest of fruit crops has been about two weeks ahead of normal. Trees have responded well to the increased moisture. The harvest of early **apple** varieties continued. **Gala** harvest will begin this week. **Blueberry** harvest wound down; **Elliot** harvest neared completion. **Pear** harvest began. Late season fresh market **peaches** were harvested; processing peach harvest continued in the west central. **Tart cherry** harvest was completed. Fall **raspberry** picking continued. **Veraison** began in Concord **grapes**. Grape berry moth numbers were up.

Vegetables

Rains improved the conditions of some vegetable crops but also increased disease problems. **Carrot** harvest continued for fresh markets and for processing. **Celery** harvest continued with good quality reported. **Potato** harvest continued for fresh markets and for processing. There were reports of **Alternaria** early blight and Colorado potato beetles in some fields. **Sweet corn** harvest continued with good quality. Recent rains helped to improve the crop condition. **Watermelon** and **cantaloup** harvest continued with good size and quality. **Cucumber** harvest continued. Disease pressures were low for most areas except the southeast, where Downy Mildew was present in some fields. **Zucchini** and **summer squash** harvest continued. **Pumpkins** and **winter squash** continued to mature. Fields in the west central were ripening sooner than normal. Powdery Mildew continued to be a problem in some fields across the State. **Tomato** and **pepper** harvest continued for both fresh market and for processing. **Snap beans** continued to grow. Early **onion** harvest began. **Cabbage** and other **cole crops** for fall harvest were developing quickly.

Crop progress for week ending 08/19/07

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, second cutting	95	92	89	87
All hay, third cutting	33	27	50	35
Blueberries, harvested	90	71	60	NA
Corn, dough	77	42	74	43
Corn, dent	20	3	24	9
Dry beans, blooming	100	92	100	98
Dry beans, setting pods	98	75	100	83
Dry beans, turning leaves	8	1	36	13
Oats, harvested	95	68	92	78
Peaches, harvested	55	36	35	NA
Potatoes, harvested	5	4	17	NA
Soybeans, setting pods	96	79	91	87
Soybeans, turning leaves	1	0	3	1

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 08/19/07¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2007	2006	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
									Since April 1	For month		
Ironwood	79	39	-3	1,794	1,833	1,467	0.06	0.25	0.62	8.63	14.72	3.69
Marquette	80	38		1,702	1,690		0.00	0.03	0.59	10.97		
Stephenson	90	38		1,885	1,876		0.00	0.00	0.00	7.05		
Western UP	90	35		1,786	1,787		0.06	0.14	0.41	7.27		
Cornell	82	40	-1	1,830	1,793	1,274	0.05	0.36	0.36	8.69	13.89	3.53
Sault St Marie	77	43		1,655	1,693		0.15	0.28	0.43	7.45		
Eastern UP	82	40		1,669	1,670		0.06	0.22	0.27	9.32		
Beulah	83	43	-2	1,970	1,960	1,655	0.43	0.45	0.45	11.91	13.08	3.11
Lake City	83	36		1,868	1,843		0.08	0.49	0.53	11.15		
Old Mission	83	46		1,860	1,902		0.04	1.13	1.29	7.16		
Pellston	81	34		1,801	1,878		0.00	0.18	0.86	7.37		
Northwest	83	34		1,843	1,848		0.11	0.99	1.17	9.45		
Alpena	87	40	-3	1,852	1,921	1,606	0.00	0.17	0.17	12.47	13.12	3.12
Houghton Lake	82	33		1,876	1,924		0.41	0.87	0.94	11.54		
Rogers City	84	38		1,840	1,969		0.14	0.84	0.92	12.26		
Northeast	87	33		1,855	1,919		0.19	0.80	0.85	11.82		
Fremont	85	45	-3	2,068	2,095	1,809	0.44	1.08	1.09	10.75	13.33	3.60
Hart	79	42		1,965	1,966		0.52	0.64	0.65	8.74		
Muskegon	81	49		2,115	2,118		1.74	2.99	3.55	11.69		
West Central	85	27		2,011	2,035		0.78	1.31	1.48	11.07		
Alma	85	45	-3	2,177	2,130	1,881	1.28	1.82	1.99	14.04	14.24	3.64
Big Rapids	84	42		2,015	1,984		0.58	1.35	1.86	13.96		
Central	85	41		2,082	2,067		0.77	1.31	1.92	12.17		
Bad Axe	84	49		2,014	2,060		0.23	1.72	1.72	9.13		
Pigeon	85	49	-3	1,930	2,032	1,870	0.43	1.45	1.45	9.84	12.92	2.93
Saginaw	83	43		2,168	2,164		1.05	3.52	3.73	13.90		
Standish	84	39		1,952	1,992		0.29	0.77	0.77	11.69		
East Central	85	39		1,987	2,071		0.52	1.93	2.12	11.31		
Fennville	80	48	-3	2,086	2,051	2,031	1.97	3.07	4.86	12.32	14.93	3.18
Grand Rapids	85	50		2,371	2,285		2.16	3.10	3.43	13.32		
Holland	85	47		2,297	2,243		3.44	4.09	5.15	13.06		
South Bend, IN	82	54		2,461	2,324		2.63	4.45	9.00	19.57		
Watervliet	81	49		2,264	2,233		2.34	4.05	6.13	14.94		
Southwest	85	45		2,251	2,186		2.25	3.69	5.48	15.00		
Belding	83	43	-4	2,081	2,109	2,008	0.55	1.38	2.08	9.47	14.86	3.36
Coldwater	83	45		2,128	2,152		1.38	2.80	3.60	12.90		
Lansing	84	44		2,213	2,222		2.29	2.90	3.54	13.20		
South Central	84	43		2,161	2,213		1.33	2.49	3.32	12.98		
Detroit	86	53	-3	2,398	2,450	1,995	1.06	2.59	4.28	13.26	14.40	3.12
Flint	85	44		2,174	2,125		0.81	1.99	2.06	14.29		
Romeo	88	48		2,107	2,248		1.61	3.54	5.09	18.09		
Tipton	84	48		2,171	2,179		2.40	5.36	7.96	17.93		
Toledo, OH	84	50		2,347	2,426		3.90	7.14	9.70	23.77		
Southeast	88	41		2,183	2,272		1.81	3.94	5.88	15.45		

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.